

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 18 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 5, 9 – 11, 14, and 18 have been amended. Claims 19 and 20 have been added. Claims 1 – 20 accordingly remain pending in the application.

Claims 1 – 4 and 10 – 13 stand rejected under U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by van de Waerdt. Claims 5 – 9 and 14 – 18 stand rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over van de Waerdt and in view of Hagersten, et al. While Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections, independent Claims 1 and 10 have nevertheless been amended.

In rejecting independent Claims 1 and 10, the Examiner asserts that van de Waerdt teaches “transmitting a bundled transmission on a system interconnect in response to the cache miss, wherein the bundled transaction combines a request for the line of data and a prefetch request” at paragraph 0007. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Van de Waerdt instead discloses at paragraph 0007 that “once a cache line has been transferred from the memory subsystem a subsequent cache line is prefetched from memory.” Van de Waerdt does not teach “transmitting a **bundle transaction** on a system interconnect that **combines a request for the line of data and a prefetch request.**”

Claims 1 and 10 have nevertheless been amended to further distinguish over van de Waerdt. In particular, amended Claim 1 recites “and wherein the bundled transaction includes a bit-map indicating selected lines of data beyond the first line to be prefetched in response to the prefetch request.” This feature is neither taught nor suggested van de Waerdt nor Hagersten. Accordingly, Claims 1 and 10, along with their respective dependent claims, are believed to patentably distinguish over van de Waerdt and Hagersten.

In addition, with regard to the dependent claims, Applicant respectfully disagrees with various characterizations and assertions in the Office Action. For example, with regard to Claims 9 and 18, Applicant respectfully submits that column 18, lines 30 – 39

of Hagersten does not teach “a second cache transitioning to a **second owner state** from the **first owner state** in response to a read request.”

Still further, added Claim 19 recites “the second cache transmitting to the first cache any of the selected lines for which the second cache is an owner; and the second cache transmitting a null-data packet to the first cache for each of a remainder of the selected lines for which the second cache is not an owner.” These features in combination with the features of Claims 1 and 2 are neither taught nor suggested by van de Waerdt or Hagersten, taken both singly and in combination. Added Claim 20 recites similar features. Accordingly Claims 19 and 20 are believed to patentably distinguish over the cited references for this further reason.

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If a phone interview would speed allowance of any pending claims, such is requested at the Examiner’s convenience.

If any required fees are missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzl, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5681-62001.

Respectfully submitted,



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